



# Idaho State Police

Service Since 1939



Colonel G. Jerry Russell  
Director

December 14, 2011

C.L. "Butch" Otter  
Governor

Dear Licensee:

This letter is to inform you of the position of the Idaho State Police regarding the use of any illegal video gaming device within the state of Idaho. Any illegal video gaming device whether it is labeled "amusement only" or not which is utilized as a "slot machine" violates the laws of the state. An illegal slot machine is an unauthorized machine that is defined as a mechanical or electronic gambling device by which a patron may risk money or a token to play a game of chance for gain of a prize or money. Slot machines are strictly prohibited under the provisions of I.C. 18-3910.

The current trend of using "amusement only" devices as a gambling device and awarding prizes of money or merchandise for the credits accumulated is illegal gambling under 18-3801. Therefore, any establishment which uses such devices in this manner may be in violation of state and federal criminal and tax laws and this will directly impact the legal status of an alcohol beverage license holder under the provisions of I.C. 23-928.

We have received various complaints of illegal gambling activities within licensed establishments from patrons and establishments that do not participate in these activities; therefore, we will be aggressively pursuing investigations into these complaints.

Sincerely,

Lt. Robert Clements, Bureau Chief  
Alcohol Beverage Control Bureau

C: Idaho Police Chiefs Association  
Idaho Sheriffs Association  
Amber French, Deputy Director, Idaho Lottery Commission  
Tyler Mallard, Office of Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter